

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The newspaper/broadcast

cross-ownership cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

I strongly believe that diversity in media ownership - as codified in the cable ownership cap and the cross-ownership rule - is vital to our nation's health and even our national security. In the words of Justice William O. Douglas, "When we force people to listen to another's ideas, we give the propagandist a powerful tool." We cannot trust even more concentrated media conglomerates to act in America's best interests, and we should not allow them such a tool.